dangered as to render resistance an act of necessary self-defence and protection, you will act with that forbearance which has distinguished you heretofore in permitting the South Carolinians to strengthen Fort Moultrie and erect new batteries for the defence of the harbor." [1]

In these instructions the administration of Mr, Buclian.an was certainly carrying the policy of non-interference to its extreme limit. The Government was, however, still in hopes that acme amicable settlement might be arrived at-J* The Peace Conference, called at the instance of Virginia, was endeavoring to present a basis for the reorganisation of the Union, The President was very unwilling to believe that a civil war wan inevitable. Hence lie issued these orders to Andeiwm, and imposed upon him the difficult task of sustaining patiently the trials incident to such an anomalous situation as that in winch he was placed.

Anderson, therefore, was left in Fort Sumter, with a manifestly inadequate force, his only means of communication with his Government at the mercy of his enemies, forbidden to interfere with the erection of the formidable batteries around him which were being built and supplied for the purpose of forcing him to lower his Hag and surrender his post,

and wan expected quietly to wait until the prepara-
tion** for the attack should be BO far completed as to juntify him in demanding supplier and reinfoiw-
mentH an " neeesnary for " hit* ' safety, or for a BUO

[1] i W. U., 182.
[1] Sec J W. R,» 183; Holt t « > An»l*'rson.